



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY STRIPES

April 23, 2007

The STRIPES Communiqué is one of the many ways you will receive information and progress updates about the STRIPES Project. If you did not receive this communiqué via e-mail and would like to be added to the STRIPES mailing list, send an e-mail to STRIPES@hq.doe.gov with the word “subscribe” in the subject line.

STRIPES Configuration Reviewed by Field CFOs

The Chief Financial Officers (CFO) from across DOE gathered last week at a Field CFO meeting in Washington, DC. The STRIPES Team was on hand to talk about the configuration decisions that were agreed upon during the Configuration Workshops in March. They explained to the CFOs that the new process for initiating procurement requests (PRs) will promote accurate accounting information because data entered in STRIPES will interface directly with STARS. For most of the goods and services purchased by DOE, this will save time by eliminating duplicate entry and better enable data accuracy.

The field CFOs had a lot of questions about how the interface between STARS and STRIPES would share information. They are looking forward to more follow-up discussions. “A lot of forethought went into the STRIPES Team’s configuration decisions and I’m pleased that they have shared those decisions with the financial community,” said Jim Campbell, Acting CFO for the Department of Energy.

The STRIPES team also explained that STRIPES will use electronic signatures to approve PRs and contract awards. STRIPES will require the use of usernames and passwords for system security and to authenticate the identity of the user. Once they have been authenticated, approved personnel can apply their electronic signature to PRs and contract awards without the need for a signed paper copy. Electronic records will be kept within the system and will reduce the need to maintain bulky paper copies of documents.

The financial community was also interested to hear how VIPERS/VIAS was going to interface with STRIPES via STARS. Attendees were advised that notices would be received twice in STRIPES; once when an invoice is received and again upon payment of the invoice. The field CFOs were pleased with this interaction between STRIPES and VIAS/VIPERS and look forward to hearing more about the details of the interface.

As the Configuration Phase moves forward, even more software options and parameters will be set to reflect the way DOE does business. STARS and STRIPES will share reference data (such as vendor information) and Accounting Flex Field (AFF) segment values and will interface in order to provide real-time fund balances when completing purchase requisitions and awards. “It is obvious that the STRIPES Team has put a lot of work into configuring the system to meet DOE’s needs, and I appreciate them taking the time to share their work with the financial community,” said Tom Foley, the CFO for the Chicago Operations Office. As a final point, the Field CFOs also requested that the STRIPES Team continue to coordinate all potential audit issues with the financial community.

For more information on STRIPES Configuration or to find out about how the STRIPES Team is working with DOE’s financial community, log onto our website at <http://www.cfo.doe.gov/corpsyst/i-manage/STRIPES.htm>. If you have a specific question, you can send an e-mail to STRIPES@hq.doe.gov.

Missed the STRIPES field visits in January?

If you missed the STRIPES Team during our site visits in January, you can still see the presentation and system demonstration on DVD. Just ask your local STRIPES Project representative.



Checkout the Updated STRIPES Website

The STRIPES Website has recently been updated with current Configuration Phase information that will assist the procurement community in keeping current on configuration decisions that will affect them when STRIPES goes live. A great place to begin learning about STRIPES is on our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) page. The FAQs page is located online at <http://www.cfo.doe.gov/corpsyst/i-manage/STRIPESFAQs.htm>.

STRIPES Training Simulations

In addition to just reading about STRIPES, you can now try it out by using our interactive simulations. *Getting Started in STRIPES* is the first of ten interactive simulations that will be released this year and will allow users to practice logging onto STRIPES as a fictional character named Spencer Specialist. In the next simulation, which will be available in a few weeks, Spencer's character will demonstrate how to check standard reports that will be available in STRIPES. From the STRIPES Webpage, simply click on the [Screenshots and Simulations](#) link to access the interactive simulations page.

Please note: You may have to adjust the pop-up blocker on your computer to view the simulations. If you need assistance, please contact the IIPS Help Desk at 800-683-0751 or the I-MANAGE Help Desk at 866-834-6246 (or x3-2500 from Headquarters) and select option 4, then option 1.

Policy Corner

As part of the STRIPES Implementation, the Office of Procurement and Assistance Policy (MA-61) is currently reviewing local clauses and the templates that will store those clauses in STRIPES. The goal is to have one standard set of local clauses and clause templates that can be used across the Department of Energy. As you might imagine, with dozens of field sites and almost as many Program Offices, coordinating the clauses across the Department is a major effort, and a Local Clause Working Group has been working since February 2005 on the effort.

Sandra Cover (MA-61) recently completed a review of local clause sections B, C, and D and is ready to coordinate those clauses with the subject matter experts at DOE Headquarters and with the Procurement Policy Advisory Group (PPAG). The approved clauses will be included in STRIPES when it is implemented. With standard contract clause sections nearly completed by the Local Clause Working Group, the group is requesting samples of Section L and M language that may be helpful to them as they formulate standards in these two sections. Any field offices that would like to contribute suggested language for clause sections L and M may email Scott Stevenson at scott.stephenson@srs.gov or Jim Broadus at James.Broadus@hq.doe.gov.

In parallel with the local clause standardization effort, clause templates are being developed that will store the format of the clauses. Developing clause templates is a complex task because you want to insure that adequate and applicable templates are available to the contracting staff to expedite the contract writing process. In order to facilitate the task, field offices will be queried on the template types that they wish to be configured into the system. Development of the clause templates is scheduled to continue through the end of the Configuration Phase.

STRIPES Project Information

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